

# **Incredible Invertebrates Website Project**

The Marine ecosystems of the world are home to a multitude of incredible invertebrate organisms. Some organisms are masters of taking over the entire ecosystem, while others are specially adapted to survive and thrive in extreme environments.

**Your mission is to:**

- 1.) Research an incredible invertebrate that seems interesting to you. Choose from a list of invertebrates known to be invasive species, or others known to inhabit the deep sea hydrothermal vent ecosystems.**
- 2.) Develop an informational website detailing specific characteristics of a marine invertebrate of your choosing (from a class list).**
- 3.) Present your website in class, and teach your classmates all of the details about your chosen invert. Other appropriate visual aids and materials are a bonus.**

Creating a website is not as difficult as you might think. There are basic templates to available using Microsoft Word (see Resources below). You will work in groups of 2-3. Start by making a website template, then fill in the information gathered. Be creative, show your computer skills, make something of which you can be proud to share.

## **Resources for creating a website:**

How to create a website, instructions by NPS's Mrs. Walsh:

<http://www.ri.net/schools/Narragansett/NPS/resources/spin/index.html>

Getting a web site started:

<http://www.fgcu.edu/support/office2000/word/websizard.html>

## **Basic questions and concepts to be covered:**

### **All invertebrates:**

- What is the invertebrate's niche in the ecosystem it inhabits, and how does it fit into the food chain of that environment?
- What are the organism's food sources?
- A picture/diagram of the external anatomy of the invertebrate, and possibly the internal anatomy.
- A description of the ecosystem where your organism lives, as well as it's world wide distribution (where can the organism be found on the Earth?).
- **If your specie is an invasive**, how was the invert introduced to the area which it now inhabits? where was it originally located? Is anything being done to remove the specie? What effects has the invertebrate had on the ecosystem?
- **If your specie is from the hydrothermal vents**, how is the invert specially adapted to live in such an extreme environment? Is there an interesting history about how your organism was discovered? How was your organism discovered?

**Incredible Invertebrates to Choose From: (every group must choose a different invertebrate)**

**Invasive Species:**

- Asian Shore Crab: *Hemigrapsus sanguineus*
- Green Crab: *Carcinus maenas*
- Orange Striped Anenome: *Diadumene lineata*
- Common/European Periwinkle: *Littorina littorea*
- European Flat Oyster: *Ostrea edulis*
- Asian Stalked Tunicate: *Styela clava*

**Hydrothermal Vent Species:**

- Giant Tubeworm: *Riftia pachyptila*
- Vent Mussel: *Bathymodiolus childressi*
- Vent Clam: *Calyptogena magnifica*
- Pompeii Worm: *Alvinella pompejana*
- Vent Octopus: *Graneledone pacifica*
- Galatheid Crab: *Munidopsis alvisca*

You will be allowed time in class to begin your research, as well as a day in the computer lab to start the website creation. However, working on the website outside of class will be necessary as well.

**See Rubric for Grading Specifics**

